

Media Advisory

from the South Carolina Forestry Commission



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Sunday, April 10, 2022

CONTACT:
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SCFC conducting prescribed burn at Table Rock State Park

Media are invited to attend a prescribed burn conducted by South Carolina Forestry Commission (SCFC) personnel beginning at 11:30 a.m. Monday, April 11 at Table Rock State Park in Pickens. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) will also be assisting with this burn. This cooperative burn is part of the Southern Blue Ridge Fire Learning Network, a group of partners who work together to apply fire in the mountains for forest restoration and wildfire reduction.

Approximately 30 acres are scheduled to be burned for wildfire fuel reduction and wildlife habitat improvement. Media planning to attend must RSVP to SCFC Piedmont Assistant Regional Forester, Brad Bramlett (see info/time/contact info at right).

Media should use the East Gate entrance at 158 Ellison Lane, Pickens, SC. Please look for the "Table Rock State Park Headquarters" and "Cherokee Foothills Visitors Center" sign.

Prescribed or controlled burning is the skilled application of fire under planned weather and fuel conditions to achieve specific forest and land management objectives. The practice has many benefits, including:

- Reducing the amount of forest fuels, which reduces the chances for wildfire severity.
- Eliminating vegetative competition.
- Improving wildlife habitat, especially for deer and turkey.
- Reducing the spread of pest insects and diseases.

Gov. Henry McMaster designated March 2022 Prescribed Fire Awareness Month in South Carolina, and the South Carolina Forestry Commission is raising awareness of the practice by inviting media to attend and cover as many controlled burns as possible across the state.

Prescribed burning cannot stop all wildfires, but it is the best management tool available for preventing larger and more frequent outbreaks. Approximately 500,000 acres are prescribed-burned every year in South Carolina by land managers who understand the appropriate weather conditions, fuel loads, and atmospheric conditions for conducting such burns.

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The mission of the South Carolina Forestry Commission is to protect, promote, enhance and nurture the forest lands of South Carolina in a manner consistent with achieving the greatest good for its citizens.

Media credentialing

Media interested in covering the prescribed burn must RSVP.

WHEN: 11:30 a.m.
Monday, April 11

WHERE: Table Rock State Park
Visitor Center Parking Lot
158 E Ellison Ln
Pickens, SC 29671

WHOM TO CALL: **Brad Bramlett**
Piedmont Assistant
Regional Forester
(864) 915-1924

Video/photo opportunities and interviews will be made available to all credentialed media.